



Walter Infant School and Nursery

Friday Flyer

Dear Walter Families,

This week has been amazing; we have all been so busy and had some fantastic visitors in school to enhance our curriculum and to make our learning as much fun as possible.

PTA

Our PTA (Parent Teacher Association) are INCREDIBLE! They work so hard to plan exciting events, such as the picnic which will take place on Sunday 22nd September 2024 at 12 noon, for our new children and their families in Foundation Stage. We are so grateful for all the support we receive, such as the School Disco, the Summer Fair, Sports Day ice lollies, Christmas Cards, Bake Sales, School Uniform, the list goes on! This week we have received a donation to the school for...



This is going to make such a huge difference to our school and the children, as times are financially very hard, and we do not want our children to go without anything during their time at Walter! We will be able to use the money to buy new toys and games for the classroom as well as more equipment for our outside play areas! We are all delighted and the teachers are so excited to be able to choose resources to

really enhance the children's learning and to be able to plan further dance days and theatre groups. Thank you so much to everyone who has worked on the PTA or supported our fund raising. We are extremely lucky to have such a dedicated team.

Jeans for Genes Day

We participate in a number of charitable events throughout the school year as part of our Character Education Curriculum: we support some national charities, some local charities and also raise money for our school. We completely recognise that we could not do any of this without the incredible support from all of you, our Walter Families. The children really enjoy having days like today, when they can physically take part in a national charity event, learn why it is important to have empathy for others, especially children less fortunate than themselves and to learn about the differences there are between themselves and other children in the United Kingdom and around the world. I have placed our Jeans for Genes Day Assembly on the website today (under Parents), if you are interested in learning more and watching it with your children to find out what they know about genetics!



Jeans for Genes 2024.pptx

Thank you so much for all your donations; we have a Just Giving Page if you would like to donate, there is no obligation to do so, and thank you so much to all of you who gave us money or donated on the page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jeansforgenesday28273>



So far, we have raised...over £200.

Louis Taylor Road Safety Show

Louis Taylor brought his amazing Road Safety Show to school on Tuesday. This was a great success and all the children were able to talk to their teachers afterwards about what they had learned. I was delighted to receive an email from a parent telling me how much her little boy had enjoyed the day and how much fun it was. Her elder boy also remembered the day from when he was at school and the two boys were able to laugh about it together.

Her eldest boy said *“that’s a memory in the back of my head I hope to have forever.”* And Mum said *“I feel like I was there because they’ve basically replayed the whole thing to me (when they could stop laughing)! They can also recall the important safety messages so that’s good too.”*



Olympic Dance Day

On Wednesday we had our Olympic Dance Day: The children learned Flamenco Dances from Spain, Bollywood Dances from India and Samba Dances from Brazil. They really enjoyed themselves, as did all the adults, and their behaviour was exemplary. Mr Herlihey organised for the day to take place and when the dance teacher arrived she explained how excited she was to return to our school as we are her favourite school to visit, because she is made so welcome and because the children are always so sensible, hardworking and polite!





Year One Phonics and Reading Meeting

Thank you so much to all of our parents who came to the meeting on Monday; we had more parents than we have ever had before! And what a great audience of parents you all were! I could tell that you are all keen to be phonics experts too, just like your children. The 'Powerpoint' we shared is on our website, if you would like to see it and were unable to attend.

Helping Your Children with School Dinners

We have noticed that some of our children are struggling to eat their hot dinners without help to cut their food with knives and forks. We do recognise that school may be the only time your children use knives and forks but it would be really good for your children to practise using them so that they can be more independent when they are eating. Lots of the children choose baked potatoes with beans, cheese or tuna. They need to use a knife and fork to eat a baked potato so if you are able to help them develop their cutting skills, it would really help them. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.



Walter Infant School and Nursery is a Healthy School

We are extremely proud of our Healthy School status, and very grateful to Mrs Pimm who ensures that we remain a healthy school all the time.

At the start of the new school year we have noticed that we need to be clearer about sharing our messages and expectations, so please forgive me if I have not explained how we continue to be such a healthy school.

Birthdays

We know how important children's birthdays are and how much we all like to celebrate, however, we do not want the children to bring sweets, sweet treats or cakes into school to share because we understand how important it is for our families to choose what their children eat, including how much sugar they have each day or each week. If every child brought in a packet of sweets for the children in their child's class, that would be an additional 30 packets of sweets within a school year! Not only is this unhealthy, it is also expensive, and removes the choice from parents about the healthy choices they make for their children. So please refrain from sending in sweet treats as we will not be able to distribute them to the other children. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Packed Lunches (No chocolate spread or nuts)

We are a **NUT FREE** school, we have children who are allergic to nuts, and if they were to come into contact with nuts, the effects could be catastrophic. So that we can manage the safety of all our children we ask that you do not include any products in their lunch boxes with nuts in them. We appreciate that some wrappers for food will include a warning, but as long as none of the ingredients are nuts, that is usually fine. However, to avoid any risk at all, we do not allow children to bring in sandwiches made with chocolate spread of any sort. Not only is there a serious risk to some of our children, it is also not considered to be a healthy choice. I appreciate that you may not have been aware of this risk, but I know you will now refrain from making chocolate spread sandwiches for your children.

Hot Dinners for Robin Children

We met with Caterlink this week and have been able to arrange for hot lunches to be served to our Robin Children. They will start as close to half term as we can organise and will cost £2.65 as pre-school children are sadly not entitled to a free school meal, like all our other children! Please look out for more information on how to arrange for your Robin child to have a freshly prepared hot lunch each day.

School Governors

Would anyone like to be a parent governor? We are hoping to recruit two parent governors, we will be sending out more information in the coming weeks. We also have opportunities for governors who are not parents, so grandparents, local business people etc.

School Tour of St. Paul's Junior School

Here is the link for you to use to book a tour of St Paul's Junior School, if your child has now joined Year 2 and will be moving into the juniors in September 2025:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-pauls-school-wokingham/e-dmzxdp>

Stars of the Week

Here are our shining starts of the week!





Miller's Ark

Miller's Ark Travelling Farm are visiting school on Wednesday and Thursday next week (25th and 26th September); all the children will get to meet the animals, learn lots of facts about them and may be even stroke them! We will ensure good hygiene methods are in place. This is such a wonderful experience for our children and we are all very excited.



There will be pigs, goats, chickens, donkeys, ducks and more!

If you are struggling to provide all you need to at the moment; we can provide Food Vouchers for the Foodbank and fuel vouchers.

We can help!

If you are struggling to provide anything essential for your child's well-being, such as pyjamas, coats, shoes, socks, underwear, school uniform, bedding etc please ask us

as we are here to help. We do not want any of our children to miss out on the basic fundamentals that they are all entitled to. As before, please just ask.

Pupil Premium Funding

Some of our families are entitled to Pupil Premium Funding for their children; this is a wonderful addition to our school's budget and helps us to provide curriculum enrichment and support for our Pupil Premium children and all other children too!

Your child may be entitled to this funding which can be used to pay for clubs, uniform, additional support, one to one nurture, Canine Assisted learning etc.

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits you may be eligible for free school meals or the pupil premium:

- 1) Income Support.
- 2) Income based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- 3) Income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- 4) Child Tax Credit - Where the family's annual income is not more than £16,190 and Working Tax Credit is not in payment.
- 5) Guarantee Pension Credit.
- 6) Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- 7) Universal Credit.

Please contact Mrs Janes in the office to find out more or follow this link <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-information-and-services/free-school-meals-and-the-pupil-premium/>

Children who receive Pupil Premium Funding in school can attend an after school or morning club (excluding Junior Adventures), free of charge. Please speak with Mrs Hemmings in the office to see what is available. Unfortunately, we do not have any more spaces for I-Rock at the moment.

Walter's Pantry

We have a fully stocked pantry in school; including the ingredients to make a stove top evening meal, breakfast as well as nappies, toothpaste, baby wipes etc, for any of our families who are struggling to make ends meet at any point during the week. Please do not hesitate in speaking to Mrs Janes or Mrs Hemmings in person or via telephone or email if you need a little help. You will be able to choose the things you need, discretely, whenever you need to.



Walter can help!

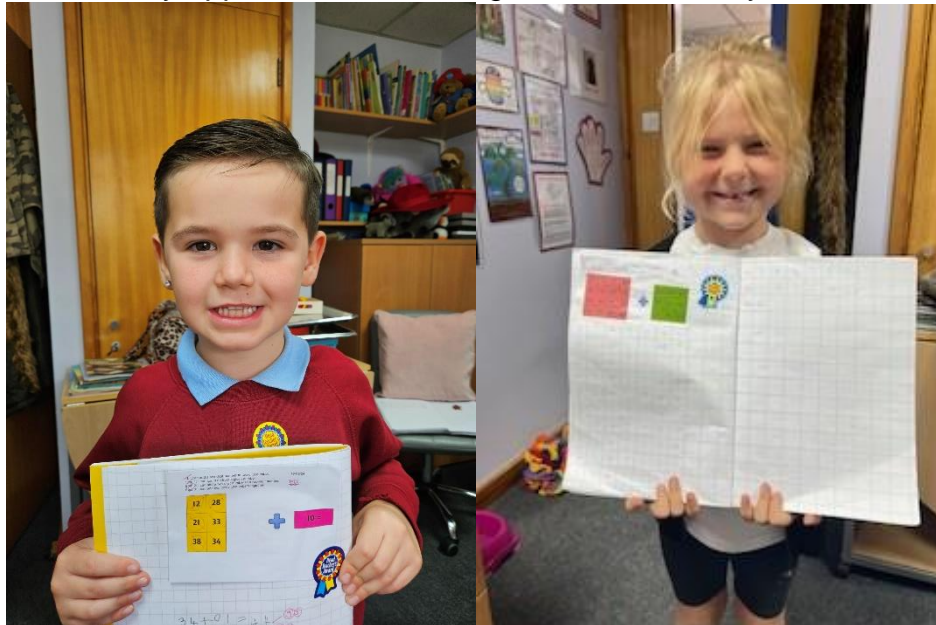


Next week in school!

Next week is very busy (although every week can be very busy)! Our children will be taking part in a number of exciting events and activities, please be aware of anything that you as parents will need to be included in too! (All details of events can be found on the website calendar).

Amazing work in school

Ronnie and Mabel both worked extremely hard in Maths this week and were very successful when they applied their knowledge of addition all by themselves.



I am very happy to share your children's success outside of school, send me the photos and the context and I will post them in the flyer.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Judy Hargreaves: Headteacher



Calendar Dates for Parents Autumn 2024



Date	Event	Time
22 nd September 2024 (Sunday)	Foundation Stage Picnic – All Foundation Stage parents invited to bring a picnic and a blanket!	12 noon until 1:30 pm
24 th September – 10 th December	Weekly Tours for New Parents begin	9:15am
25 th & 26 th September 2024	Millers Ark Visit	All Day
1 st October 2024	Individual Photographs	All day
14 th October 2024	FS2 Parents Reading and Phonics meeting	2:45 pm
15 th and 17 th October 202	Year 2 trips to Lego Land	All day
21 st and 23 rd October 2024	Parent Consultations – Face to Face	3:30 till 6:30 pm
22 nd October 2024	Flu Immunisations	
28 th October 2024	Half Term	
11 th – 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week	
11 th November	Remembrance Day	
29 th November 2024	Christmas Fair	3.30 – 5.30pm
10 th December 2024	Beech Class Nativity – For Parents	2pm
11 th December 2024	Larch Nativity – For Parents	2pm
12 th December 2024	Oak Nativity – For Parents	2pm
18 th December 2024	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the children)	
18 th December 2024	Christmas Lunch	11.30 – 1pm
18 th December 2024	Y2 Singing Extravaganza – For Parents	2pm
20 th December 2024	Last Day of Term (Children finish 1 hour early)	

Further dates to be added. All Dates may be subject to change. Please continue to check the website calendar and the Friday Flyer.